

# **ASSORTED CORRESPONDENCE**

## Sarah Charette

---

**From:** Margaret Moriarty  
**Sent:** February 8, 2013 11:08 AM  
**To:** Sarah Charette  
**Subject:** RE: Procedure of appeal

Dear Mr. Ali,

You can appeal to the Executive Committee of the FGPS, indicating the basis for your appeal. You do so by writing to the attention of the Executive Committee of the FGPS, within 10 working days following the date at which you were notified of the decision being contested. When you send your letter of appeal, you should provide any document that supports your appeal/argumentation.

The following link will lead you to the FGPS Regulations and Procedures regarding theses and research papers: <http://www.grad.uottawa.ca/Default.aspx?tabid=3572>.

Sincerely,

Sarah

Sarah C. Charette  
Secrétaire/Secretary  
Faculté des Études Supérieures et Postdoctorales/Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies  
scharet2@uottawa.ca  
Tél.: 613-562-5800 ext. 1223  
115 rue Séraphin-Marion  
Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5

AVIS/NOTICE: Le présent courriel et toutes les pièces jointes contiennent de l'information privée, exclusive, privilégiée et/ou confidentielle, sujette au droit d'auteur s'adressant uniquement au destinataire. Toute utilisation, copie ou distribution non autorisée du contenu de ce courriel est strictement interdite. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire de ce message et que vous l'avez reçu par erreur, veuillez le supprimer et en informer immédiatement l'expéditeur./ This e-mail communication, including all attachments, may contain private, proprietary, privileged and/or confidential information and subject to copyright. It is intended only for the person to whom it is addressed. Any unauthorized use, copying or distribution of the contents of this e-mail is strictly prohibited. Please delete this e-mail and notify the sender immediately, if you are not the intended recipient, and have received it by error.

-----Original Message-----

From: Sonia Letourneau  
Sent: February 7, 2013 1:51 PM  
To: 'nali065@uottawa.ca'  
Cc: DEANGRAD; Sarah Charette  
Subject: RE: Procedure of appeal

Good afternoon,

Sarah Charette will respond to your email shortly.

Cordially,

Sonia Létourneau

Tél. / Tel: 613-562-5800, poste / ext. 1234 Téléc. / Fax: 613-562-5730 sletourn@uottawa.ca

AVIS / NOTICE: Ce message peut contenir des renseignements privilégiés et confidentiels et il est strictement réservé à l'usage du destinataire indiqué. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire de ce message, la consultation ou la reproduction même partielle de ce message et des renseignements qu'il contient est strictement interdite. Si ce message vous a été transmis par erreur, veuillez en informer l'expéditeur en lui retournant ce message. / This message is reserved strictly for the use of the individual or organization to whom it is addressed and it may contain privileged and confidential information. Access, copying or re-use of any information contained therein by any other person is not authorized. If you are not the intended recipient please notify us immediately by returning the message to the originator.

-----Original Message-----

From: nali065@uottawa.ca [mailto:nali065@uottawa.ca]

Sent: 7 février 2013 13:40

To: Sonia Letourneau

Cc: 'nali065@uottawa.ca'; DEANGRAD; Sarah Charette

Subject: Re: Procedure of appeal

Sonia:

Thank you for your response. Unfortunately it does not answer my questions addressed to the Dean. The policy on appeals for thesis evaluations states that appeals must be based on the grounds that "appropriate procedures" were not followed. I assume this means appropriate procedures for the evaluation of theses. Can you please provide me with any policy, regulation or procedure regarding the evaluation of theses? I understand that my appeal must be limited to any issue arising from a potential breach of those procedures. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Nicholas

Dear Dr. Hastings:

Re. your letter dated January 30th 2013, you referred me to paragraph 10 in the Appeal procedures. Paragraph 10 of the Appeal Procedure states:

"Comprehensive examinations, thesis evaluations and thesis defences, being conducted by a panel of examiners in accordance with established procedures, are not subject to the appeal provisions of this regulation.

Their decisions may, however, be appealed to the Executive Committee of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, which, depending on the nature of the complaint, will take appropriate action to ensure that it is clear that justice has been done. If the student is

not satisfied with the outcome of such action, he may appeal to the Senate Appeals Committee on the grounds that appropriate procedures have not been followed.”

Questions:

1. Can you please provide the established procedures mentioned in the first sentence of paragraph 10?, and
2. Can you please provide the appropriate procedures mentioned in the last sentence of paragraph 10?

In the event you are not able to address these questions, kindly direct me to the person I can contact to provide the information requested. Dr. Hastings I am grateful for your help with this matter.

Kind regards,

Nicholas

> Good afternoon Mr. Ali,  
>  
> Dean Hastings has asked me to send you some information concerning the  
> procedure of appeal. Requests of appeal must be submitted within 10  
> working days from receipt of the decision (in your case, the deadline  
> is Friday, February 15th). The documentation should be sent to the  
> office of the Assistant Dean and Secretary General, Dr. Moriarty. The  
> request of appeal will then be examined by the Executive Committee of  
> the FGPS. If your appeal is not granted, you can submit a request of  
> appeal to the Senate Appeals Committee.  
>  
> For any further information concerning the procedure of appeal, you  
> can contact Ms. Sarah Charette  
> (scharet2@uottawa.ca<mailto:scharet2@uottawa.ca>, extension 1223) at  
> the office of Dr. Moriarty.  
>  
> Sincerely,  
>  
> Sonia Létourneau  
> Secrétaire du doyen | Secretary to the Dean Faculté des études  
> supérieures et postdoctorales | Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral  
> Studies Pavillon Hagen Hall  
> 115 Séraphin-Marion (209)  
> Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5  
> Tél. / Tel: 613-562-5800, poste / ext. 1234 Téléc. / Fax: 613-562-5730  
> sletourn@uottawa.ca<mailto:sletourn@uottawa.ca>  
> AVIS / NOTICE: Ce message peut contenir des renseignements privilégiés  
> et confidentiels et il est strictement réservé à l'usage du  
> destinataire indiqué. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire de ce  
> message, la consultation ou la reproduction même partielle de ce  
> message et des renseignements qu'il contient est strictement  
> interdite. Si ce message vous a été transmis par erreur, veuillez en  
> informer l'expéditeur en lui retournant ce message. / This message is  
> reserved strictly for the use of the individual or organization to  
> whom it is addressed and it may contain privileged and confidential

**From:** Margaret Moriarty  
**Sent:** February 11, 2013 1:15 PM  
**To:** nali065@uottawa.ca  
**Cc:** Sarah Charette  
**Subject:** RE: Request for extension to file appeal due to medical circumstances

Dear Mr. Ali,

This is to confirm that the extension is granted for the reason stated. Your appeal will now be on the agenda of the 2 April 2013 meeting of the Committee. You will need to file your appeal documents by 25 March 2013.

Regards,

Margaret Moriarty, Ph.D. (C. Trans. ATIO) Secrétaire générale/Secretary General Faculté des études supérieures et postdoctorales Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies  
Tél./Tel: (613) 562-5800 poste/ext.: 1221

-----Original Message-----

From: nali065@uottawa.ca [mailto:nali065@uottawa.ca]  
Sent: Monday February 11, 2013 11:53 AM  
To: Margaret Moriarty  
Subject: Request for extension to file appeal due to medical circumstances

Dear Dr. Moriarty:

My name is Nicholas Ali and I am a PhD candidate in School of Human Kinetics. I am planning on filing an appeal to the Executive Committee of the FGPS regarding a decision letter signed by the Dean Dr. Hastings dated January 30th 2013.

Unfortunately I have been suffering from anxiety which has affected my ability to prepare my appeal as fast as I would have hoped. As such, I am requesting an extension until March 15, 2013 to submit my appeal. Please find enclosed a medical note to this effect.

If you could please let me know at your earliest availability if the extension is granted, that would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Ali

Sarah Charette

FW to MM. on 12/02/2013.

**From:** nali065@uottawa.ca  
**Sent:** February 12, 2013 1:51 PM  
**To:** Sarah Charette  
**Cc:** Sonia Letourneau; 'nali065@uottawa.ca'; DEANGRAD  
**Subject:** RE: Procedure of appeal

Dear Sarah:

Thank you for the information provided; unfortunately it does not answer my questions.

The appeal I am filling is related to my thesis evaluation and the applicable regulation is regulation 10.3 on Revision of Grades and Appeals (<http://web5.uottawa.ca/admingov/regulations.html#r43>). The section pertinent to my case states:

"At the graduate level, the jury's decision may, however, be appealed to the Executive Committee of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies on the grounds that appropriate procedures were not followed.

Students who are not satisfied with the outcome of this process can appeal, on the grounds that appropriate procedures were not followed, to the Senate Appeals Committee."

My questions are:

1. I understand that I can only appeal based on the ground that "appropriate procedures" were not followed. I assume this means the appropriate procedure for thesis and thesis evaluations. If this is correct, please provide any and all applicable "appropriate procedures." I am not looking for the appropriate procedures to file an appeal - I have already been informed that the appeal policy applicable is Regulation 10.3.

2. Can you please provide the appropriate procedures mentioned in the last sentence?

In the event you are not able to address these questions, kindly direct me to the person I can contact to provide the information requested.

Kind regards,

Nicholas

> Dear Mr. Ali,

>

> You can appeal to the Executive Committee of the FGPS, indicating the  
> basis for your appeal. You do so by writing to the attention of the  
> Executive Committee of the FGPS, within 10 working days following the  
> date at which you were notified of the decision being contested. When  
> you send your letter of appeal, you should provide any document that  
> supports your appeal/argumentation.

>

> The following link will lead you to the FGPS Regulations and  
> Procedures regarding theses and research papers:  
> <http://www.grad.uottawa.ca/Default.aspx?tabid=3572>.

>

> Sincerely,

>  
> Sarah  
>  
> Sarah C. Charette  
> Secrétaire/Secretary  
> Faculté des Études Supérieures et Postdoctorales/Faculty of Graduate  
> and Postdoctoral Studies scharet2@uottawa.ca  
> Tél.: 613-562-5800 ext. 1223  
> 115 rue Séraphin-Marion  
> Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5  
>  
> AVIS/NOTICE: Le présent courriel et toutes les pièces jointes  
> contiennent de l'information privée, exclusive, privilégiée et/ou  
> confidentielle, sujette au droit d'auteur s'adressant uniquement au  
> destinataire. Toute utilisation, copie ou distribution non autorisée  
> du contenu de ce courriel est strictement interdite. Si vous n'êtes  
> pas le destinataire de ce message et que vous l'avez reçu par erreur,  
> veuillez le supprimer et en informer immédiatement l'expéditeur./ This  
> e-mail communication, including all attachments, may contain private,  
> proprietary, privileged and/or confidential information and subject to  
> copyright. It is intended only for the person to whom it is addressed.  
> Any unauthorized use, copying or distribution of the contents of this  
> e-mail is strictly prohibited. Please delete this e-mail and notify  
> the sender immediately, if you are not the intended recipient, and have received it by  
error.  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Sonia Letourneau  
> Sent: February 7, 2013 1:51 PM  
> To: 'nali065@uottawa.ca'  
> Cc: DEANGRAD; Sarah Charette  
> Subject: RE: Procedure of appeal  
>  
> Good afternoon,  
>  
> Sarah Charette will respond to your email shortly.  
>  
> Cordially,  
>  
> Sonia Létourneau  
> Tél. / Tel: 613-562-5800, poste / ext. 1234 Téléc. / Fax: 613-562-5730  
> sletourn@uottawa.ca  
>  
> AVIS / NOTICE: Ce message peut contenir des renseignements privilégiés  
> et confidentiels et il est strictement réservé à l'usage du  
> destinataire indiqué. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire de ce  
> message, la consultation ou la reproduction même partielle de ce  
> message et des renseignements qu'il contient est strictement  
> interdite. Si ce message vous a été transmis par erreur, veuillez en  
> informer l'expéditeur en lui retournant ce message. / This message is  
> reserved strictly for the use of the individual or organization to  
> whom it is addressed and it may contain privileged and confidential  
> information. Access, copying or re-use of any information contained  
> therein by any other person is not authorized. If you are not the

> intended recipient please notify us immediately by returning the message to the originator.  
>  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: nali065@uottawa.ca [mailto:nali065@uottawa.ca]  
> Sent: 7 février 2013 13:40  
> To: Sonia Letourneau  
> Cc: 'nali065@uottawa.ca'; DEANGRAD; Sarah Charette  
> Subject: Re: Procedure of appeal  
>  
> Sonia:  
>  
>  
> Thank you for your response. Unfortunately it does not answer my  
> questions addressed to the Dean. The policy on appeals for thesis  
> evaluations states that appeals must be based on the grounds that "appropriate procedures"  
> were not followed. I assume this means appropriate procedures for the  
> evaluation of theses. Can you please provide me with any policy,  
> regulation or procedure regarding the evaluation of theses? I  
> understand that my appeal must be limited to any issue arising from a  
> potential breach of those procedures. I look forward to hearing from you.  
>  
> Kind regards,  
>  
>  
> Nicholas  
>  
>  
>  
>  
> Dear Dr. Hastings:  
>  
> Re. your letter dated January 30th 2013, you referred me to paragraph  
> 10 in the Appeal procedures. Paragraph 10 of the Appeal Procedure states:  
>  
> "Comprehensive examinations, thesis evaluations and thesis defences,  
> being conducted by a panel of examiners in accordance with established  
> procedures, are not subject to the appeal provisions of this regulation.  
> Their decisions may, however, be appealed to the Executive Committee  
> of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, which, depending  
> on the nature of the complaint, will take appropriate action to ensure  
> that it is clear that justice has been done. If the student is not  
> satisfied with the outcome of such action, he may appeal to the Senate  
> Appeals Committee on the grounds that appropriate procedures have not been followed."  
>  
> Questions:  
> 1. Can you please provide the established procedures mentioned in  
> the first sentence of paragraph 10?, and  
> 2. Can you please provide the appropriate procedures mentioned in  
> the last sentence of paragraph 10?  
>  
> In the event you are not able to address these questions, kindly  
> direct me to the person I can contact to provide the information requested. Dr.  
> Hastings I am grateful for your help with this matter.  
>  
> Kind regards,  
>



>  
> Nicholas  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>> Good afternoon Mr. Ali,  
>>  
>> Dean Hastings has asked me to send you some information concerning  
>> the procedure of appeal. Requests of appeal must be submitted within  
>> 10 working days from receipt of the decision (in your case, the  
>> deadline is Friday, February 15th). The documentation should be sent  
>> to the office of the Assistant Dean and Secretary General, Dr.  
>> Moriarty. The request of appeal will then be examined by the  
>> Executive Committee of the FGPS. If your appeal is not granted, you  
>> can submit a request of appeal to the Senate Appeals Committee.  
>>  
>> For any further information concerning the procedure of appeal, you  
>> can contact Ms. Sarah Charette  
>> (scharet2@uottawa.ca<mailto:scharet2@uottawa.ca>, extension 1223) at  
>> the office of Dr. Moriarty.  
>>  
>> Sincerely,  
>>  
>> Sonia Létourneau  
>> Secrétaire du doyen | Secretary to the Dean Faculté des études  
>> supérieures et postdoctorales | Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral  
>> Studies Pavillon Hagen Hall  
>> 115 Séraphin-Marion (209)  
>> Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5  
>> Tél. / Tel: 613-562-5800, poste / ext. 1234 Téléc. / Fax:  
>> 613-562-5730 sletourn@uottawa.ca<mailto:sletourn@uottawa.ca>  
>> AVIS / NOTICE: Ce message peut contenir des renseignements  
>> privilégiés et confidentiels et il est strictement réservé à l'usage  
>> du destinataire indiqué. Si vous n'êtes pas le destinataire de ce  
>> message, la consultation ou la reproduction même partielle de ce  
>> message et des renseignements qu'il contient est strictement  
>> interdite. Si ce message vous a été transmis par erreur, veuillez en  
>> informer l'expéditeur en lui retournant ce message. / This message is  
>> reserved strictly for the use of the individual or organization to  
>> whom it is addressed and it may contain privileged and confidential  
>> information. Access, copying or re-use of any information contained  
>> therein by any other person is not authorized. If you are not the  
>> intended recipient please notify us immediately by returning the  
>> message to the originator.  
>>  
>>  
>  
>

## Sonia Letourneau

---

**From:** DEANGRAD  
**Sent:** 28 février 2013 16:59  
**To:** 'nali065@uottawa.ca'  
**Subject:** RE: Your decision

Dear Mr. Ali,

In response to your request (below), I have once again reviewed your case. I agree with you that there is a degree of ambiguity in The FGPS's regulation G.5.2.a(4). In your case, I based my decision on the following:

1. In your case, two of the examiners submitted a verdict of 3 (not acceptable for defence) – I therefore applied regulation G.5.2.a which states that “A thesis may not be defended if two examiners are opposed”.
2. In your case, there was no majority: two gave a verdict of 3, one gave a verdict of 2 (though with a relatively critical report), and one gave a verdict of 1. The practice in such cases is to refer such cases to the Dean of the FGPS for a final decision (effectively, the Dean breaks the “tie”). In your case, I was not convinced by the reports of the two examiners who were favorable to going to defence, and so my decision was to close the file.

Yours sincerely,

Ross Hastings  
Doyen | Dean  
Faculté des études supérieures et postdoctorales |  
Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies  
[deangrad@uOttawa.ca](mailto:deangrad@uOttawa.ca)  
Téléphone / Telephone : (613) 562-5800 poste/extension 1234

-----Original Message-----

From: nali065@uottawa.ca [mailto:[nali065@uottawa.ca](mailto:nali065@uottawa.ca)]  
Sent: 18 février 2013 20:00  
To: DEANGRAD  
Subject: Your decision

Dear Dr. Hastings:

Ref. Email dated Jan 20th, 2013  
Ref. Letter dated Jan 30th 2013

In light of the above referenced communications, you have applied FGPS regulations G.5.2 (a) to arrive at your decision to withdraw me from my PhD program of studies. However, upon closer look at the previously referenced regulation, I found only one mention of mandatory withdrawal “A candidate whose thesis, following a second reading, is not recommended for the defence (a majority of verdicts 3 or 4) must withdraw from the program”. In addition, the form for thesis examiner’s report for a revised thesis states under verdict’s 3 and 4 “If more than one examiner chooses this verdict for the revised thesis, the student must withdraw from the program.” The two aforementioned mandatory

withdrawal clauses are inconsistent. As you know, I have received two verdicts of 3, a verdict of 2, and a verdict of 1, which does not consist of a majority of verdicts 3 or 4. Without a majority of verdicts 3 or 4, I request that you reinstate me in my program of studies. In the event you are exercising your discretionary reason(s), which to the best of my knowledge do not emanate from FGPS regulations, please provide me with these reason(s). I am, and will remain, very grateful for your consideration in this matter Dr. Hastings.

Kind regards,

Nicholas Ali